

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier version and listings.

1. (currently amended): A data processing apparatus capable of data communications with various devices, including a PC and a peripheral device, connected with a network, comprising:

    a storing unit configured to store function information and connection information of the various devices;

    a system displaying unit configured to display a system configuration of the network on a display by using an icon corresponding to each of the devices, in accordance with the connection information stored by said storing unit;

    a designation unit configured to designate an icon corresponding to an input a first device and an icon corresponding to an output a second device from among the icons displayed on the display unit;

    a function setting screen displaying unit configured to display a setting screen for setting a combination function achievable by combining the input first device and the output second device respectively corresponding to the icons designated by said designation unit such that the output from the first device is used as the input to the second device, in accordance with the function information stored by said storing unit; and

    a control unit configured to cause the input first device and the output second device respectively corresponding to the icons designated by said designation unit

to perform processing, on the basis of the combination function set by using the screen displayed by said function setting screen displaying unit.

2. (previously presented): An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said function setting screen displaying unit displays a setting segment for an executable expansion function of each device on the setting screen, in accordance with the function information of the device stored by said storing unit.

3. (previously presented): An apparatus according to Claim 2, further comprising an editing unit configured to edit display contents on the setting segment for the executable expansion function of each device displayed by said function setting screen displaying unit.

4. (previously presented): An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the network is connected with plural other data processing apparatuses communicable with the data processing apparatus.

5. (original): An apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein one of the plural data processing apparatuses is used as a management server.

6. (previously presented): An apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein the management server can store and manage an expansion configuration image resource of each device.

7. (currently amended): An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the input first device includes a fax machine, a digital copying machine, a scanner, a digital camera, and a modem, and the output second device includes a printer, a fax machine, a digital copying machine, a digital camera, and a modem.

8. (currently amended): A data processing method for a data processing apparatus capable of data communications with various devices, including a PC and a peripheral device, connected with a network, comprising:

a storing step of storing function information and connection information of the various devices;

a system displaying step of displaying a system configuration of the network on a display unit by using an icon corresponding to each of the devices, in accordance with the connection information stored in said storing step;

a designation step of designating an icon corresponding to an input a first device and an icon corresponding to an output a second device from among the icons displayed on the display unit;

a function setting screen displaying step of displaying a setting screen for setting a combination function achievable by combining the input first device and the output second device respectively corresponding to the icons designated in said designation step such that the output from the first device is used as the input to the second device, in accordance with the function information stored in said storing step; and

a function executing step of causing the input first device and the output second device respectively corresponding to the icons designated in said designation step

to perform processing, on the basis of the combination function set by using the screen displayed in said function setting screen displaying step.

9. (previously presented): A method according to Claim 8, wherein said function setting screen displaying step includes displaying a setting segment for an executable expansion function of each device on the setting screen, in accordance with the function information of the device stored in said storing step.

10. (previously presented): A method according to Claim 9, further comprising an editing step for editing display contents on the setting segment for the executable expansion function of each device displayed in said function setting screen displaying step.

11. (previously presented): A method according to Claim 8, wherein a management server is provided which can store and manage an expansion configuration image resource of each device.

12. (currently amended): A method according to Claim 8, wherein the input first device includes a fax machine, a digital copying machine, a scanner, a digital camera, and a modem, and the output second device includes a printer, a fax machine, a digital copying machine, a digital camera, and a modem.

13. (currently amended): A computer-readable storage medium storing a computer-readable program for controlling a data processing apparatus capable of data communications with various devices, including a PC and a peripheral device, connected with a network, comprising:

a storing step of storing function information and connection information of the various devices;

a system displaying step of displaying a system configuration of the network on a display unit by using an icon corresponding to each of the devices, in accordance with the connection information stored in said storing step;

a designation step of designating an icon corresponding to an input a first device and an icon corresponding to an output a second device from among the icons displayed on the display unit;

a function setting screen displaying step of displaying a setting screen for setting a combination function achievable by combining the input first device and the output second device respectively corresponding to the icons designated in said designation step such that the output from the first device is used as the input to the second device, in accordance with the function information stored in said storing step; and

a function executing step of causing the input first device and the output second device respectively corresponding to the icons designated in said designation step to perform processing, on the basis of the combination function set by using the screen displayed in said function setting screen displaying step.

14. (previously presented): A storage medium according to Claim 13, wherein said function setting screen displaying step includes displaying a setting segment for an executable expansion function of each device on the setting screen, in accordance with the function information of the device stored in said storing step.

15. (previously presented): A storage medium according to Claim 14, wherein the program further comprises an editing step for editing display contents on the setting segment for the executable expansion function of each device displayed in said function setting screen displaying step.

16. (previously presented): A storage medium according to Claim 13, wherein a management server is provided which can store and manage an expansion configuration image resource of each device.

17. (currently amended): A storage medium according to Claim 13, wherein the input~~first~~ device includes a fax machine, a digital copying machine, a scanner, a digital camera, and a modem, and the output~~second~~ device includes a printer, a fax machine, a digital copying machine, a digital camera, and a modem.

18. - 47. (canceled).

48. (currently amended): An apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising a determining unit configured to determined input/out setting suitable for a

combination of the inputfirst device and the outputsecond device respectively corresponding to the icons designated by said designation unit,

wherein said function setting screen displaying unit displays a setting screen to which the input/output setting determined by said determining unit has been set as default.

49. (previously presented): An apparatus according to Claim 48, wherein the input/output setting is color or monochrome setting or resolution setting.

50. (currently amended): A method according to Claim 8, further comprising a determining step of determining input/output setting suitable for a combination of the inputfirst device and the outputsecond device respectively corresponding to the icons designated in said designation step,

wherein said function setting screen displaying step includes displaying a setting screen to which the input/output setting determined in said determining step has been set as default.

51. (previously presented): A method according to Claim 50, wherein the input/output setting is color or monochrome setting or resolution setting.

52. (currently amended): A storage medium according to Claim 13, wherein the program further comprises a determining step of determining input/output

setting suitable for a combination of the input first device and the output second device respectively corresponding to the icons designated in said designation step,

wherein said function setting screen displaying step includes displaying a setting screen to which the input/output setting determined in said determining step has been set as default.

53. (previously presented): A storage medium according to Claim 52, wherein the input/output setting is color or monochrome setting or resolution setting.